

Consumer Task Force
Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards
January 22, 2008 10:00 am - noon
MINUTES

ATTENDEES: RoAnne Chaney, Roxanne Chang, Jacqui Day, Ian Engle, Jill Gerrie, Laura Hall, Sara Harrison, Sharon Hold, Darlene Kauffman, Betty Kirk, Suanne McBrien, Cathy McRae, Portia Morehead, Marion Owen, Robin Ripmaster, Verna Spayth, Veretta Triplett, Esther VanHammen, Jack Vint, Colleen Widder, Tandy Bidinger, Robert Curtner, Michael Daeschlein, Ellen Sugrue Hyman, John M. Jokisch, Joe Longcor, Wendi Middleton, Tari Muñiz, Jackie Tichnell

INTRODUCTIONS - The Task Force welcomes several new members: Darlene Kauffman, Betty Kirk, Portia Morehead, and Veretta Triplett.

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING - several changes were noted. Corrections were made to the official version of the minutes.

OFFICE UPDATE - The Office will be making the physical move to the Capitol View Building the end of January. The Office has received approval to fill several of its vacancies including a grant manager for the Systems Transformation Grant, two data positions and one analyst position.

STATUS OF BUDGET - the 2009 budget should be released with the State of the State message in early February. Several Task Force members said they were optimistic that funds would be available for more home and community based services and that progress was being made toward having one line-item in the budget for all long-term care services.

PROJECT UPDATES -

- **OSA Nursing Home Diversion** - Wendi Middleton provided an overview of this grant. Workgroups have met to discuss the target population requirements and training and outreach. Several Task Force members are on these workgroups. There was a clarification

regarding Activities of Daily Living (mainly related to the body, e.g., bathing) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (not related to the body, e.g., shopping). The data workgroup will meet later. The first report is due in April 2008. The grant is limited to Area Agency on Aging Region 1B (Southfield area), AAA Region 8 (Kent County area), AAA Region 6 (TriCounty area, Eaton, Ingham, Clinton)

Laura Hall suggested posting the workgroups on the Connections for Community Leadership website for consumer input. Those consumers interested in participating in any of the workgroups should contact Wendi Middleton (Office of Services to the Aging, 517-373-4071, MiddletonW@michigan.gov). The grant does have funds to help support consumers who wish to participate.

- **Money Follows the Person (2003 grant)** - The 1915b and 1916c waivers have not been completed yet. The Office is waiting for the feasibility study to be completed. The Office will create a local stakeholder group in Detroit and a state-level stakeholder group. The state level group will probably use consumers from the Consumer Task Force. In addition, the Consumer Task Force will be kept updated on the progress of this project. It was noted that, at this time, the stakeholder group will include consumers.

The next Self-Determination Leadership Seminar is March 11, 2008. These seminars are focused on MI Choice and CMH staff. Consumers are being trained through the Partners for Freedom (a workgroup of the DD Council). Requests for information on Partners for Freedom should be sent to Tandy Bidinger (Michigan Developmental Disability Council, 517-334-7355, BidingerT@michigan.gov).

- **Self-Determination in Long-Term Care** - Some of the nonpioneer sites are beginning to enroll MI Choice consumers in self-determination. Intensive staff training is scheduled in Grand Rapids and Gaylord. The draft Policy and Procedures Manual is still available for comment. Contact Tari Muñiz (517-335-5671,

munizt@michigan.gov) or Jackie Tichnell for a copy of the draft manual.

Project Success - This project will be focused on southeast Michigan, Area Agency on Aging Region 1B. The Alzheimers and Centers of Independent Living will also be included in the training. Maureen Sheahan gave a short definition of Adult Learning and agreed to include something in the packet about this concept. It is anticipated that other Areas on Aging will take this as a future training. It was suggested that Project Success be coordinated with the other self-determination leadership initiatives.

- **Medicaid Infrastructure Grant** - the number of Freedom to Work individuals has leveled off at approximately 1057. Joe Longcor is working intensely with 5 CMH boards to enhance their competitive supported employment programs. This will eventually be carried on statewide.

Jill Gerrie provided an update to **Project Search**. Erin Riehle is coming to Lansing for an informational presentation, January 31st. There is still time to register, but forms need to be into DN/Michigan by Thursday, January 24. Jackie will send the needed information out this afternoon.

- **DRA/Money Follows the Person** - There is funding for housing specialists at each of the Long-Term Care Connections sites. The Office is working on contract amendments with the LTCCs. This position will help transitioning consumers resolve the housing barriers and work at the local level on developing housing opportunities. One of the focuses of this grant will be on housing issues. It was noted that much of the housing is targeted to the elderly and congregate settings. Housing also needs to be available for younger persons with disabilities. Single unit settings are also needed.
- **Quality Community Care Council** - They are providing lots of training on working with people with dementia. The next training session is February 8, at LCC. Other training focuses on providers

and stress management, and providers and self-determination, CPR and first aid, consumers as employers, and provider peer mentoring and home skill training.

OTHER

- **Nursing Home Certificate of Need (CON) Standards** - There was public testimony on this proposed action. As a result, if a nursing facility, or its corporate office, have a bad record (based on surveys), then it will be receive a license for new or additional beds. There was an issue raised by the nursing home industry regarding the use of the survey as the only test, but subsequent negotiations left the proposal as is. The next hearing is February 2 to approve the proposed rule. It was noted that Laura Hall provided testimony on behalf of the Consumer Task Force.
- **ADAPT** - There was an ADAPT hearing in Washington D.C. recently on the Community Choice Act (formerly MiCasa) with Representative Dingle. Both parties were well represented with approximately 200 ADAPT members. There are 11 new cosigners for this bill, however, none from Michigan. The Task Force was encouraged by the Chair to contact their legislators for endorsement of this bill.

There was in impromptu ADAPT action held in Grand Rapids where the Chair of the Ethics Committee in the 'Ashley X' case was speaking at Calvin College. ADAPT was there to voice the Disability Community's prospective on the case. Ian Engles was quoted in the Grand Rapids press and on Wood-TV. Protection and Advocacy was initiated a lawsuit on behalf of Ashley.

- Colleen Widder is trying to get her own place to live and not have to share a room or a personal attendant with anyone. She is having an appeals hearing on February 6 with the CMH board.

REMINDERS:

- **INFORMATION SESSION - 12:30 - 1:30**
 - **BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

NEXT MEETINGS:

MARCH 25 2008; 10:00 - noon, Michigan Association of
Community Mental Health Boards

APRIL 22, 2008; 10:00 - noon, Michigan Association of Community
Mental Health Boards

PHONE IN NUMBER:

1-800-791-2345

NOTE: The Office of Long-Term Care Supports and Services has moved their office to the Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, Michigan 48913. The phone and fax numbers remain the same for all staff.